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18 January 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR : Historical Officer, OMS

SUBJECT : Medicine in Operations, 1947-1965

1. Although considerably closer to the mark than the previous draft, the subject history needs further tightening up. If much of the incidental detail can be deleted and if some of the better examples are expanded to tell a complete story -- including the degree of success or failure -- then we can move the paper along toward publication. It appears that dependence on the daily diaries probably has led to the excess of minutiae, whereas inordinate concern about "need to know" principles has inhibited the authors in their use of specific examples. While recognizing the latter problem, I would emphasize that one of the purposes of the Agency's historical effort is to "tell it like it was."

2. Additionally, there are a number of instances where the transition between paragraphs is not clear and in other cases the meaning of the text is obscure. Marginal notes are used to indicate such problems.

3. Finally, I think that the history would be improved through the addition of a few photos -- the various types of medical kits, the detection gear, etc. --and possibly by some appendixes representing various of the manuals which the Operations Division prepared.

4. If the history is revised on the basis of these suggestions, then I am sure that the next draft will be suitable for me to forward to our senior editor and to the Chief of the Historical Staff for final review.

Support Services Historical Officer

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